NAKAMA
NAKAMA
Variety
the spice of life

LOVE SERIES

秘密

2

春野まみ

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2

春野まみ

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春野まみ MAMI HARUNO PRESENTS
— secrecy —

SECRECY II

HIROKI & SATORU Series

CALL SECRECY II

04

"Secret"

"I M NOT THE SAME PERSON I WAS BACK THEN "
F I NEEDED AN EXCUSE, I CAN ONLY SAY—
IT'S A SECRET

I WAS JUST TRANSFERRED HERE TODAY FROM A NEW YORK BRANCH. MY NAME IS JUSEYA SHIN.
I WAS TRANSFERRED LESS THAN THREE MONTHS AFTER I CAME TO THE COMPANY FOR SPECIAL TRAINING.
SO, TO EVERYONE HERE, I AM JUST A ROOKIE.
IF IT'S NOT TOO MUCH OF A BOTHER FOR EVERYONE HERE, I'D HUMBLY ACCEPT ANY GUIDANCE OR ADVICE.
...!

KUBUTA!
The man is so cute!
YES?
KUBUTA, I REMEMBER YOU WERE IN CHARGE THE YEAR JUSEYA CAME FOR TRAINING. I THINK YOU SHOULD KNOW ONE ANOTHER, RIGHT?
YES.
I'M SURE I'VE ALREADY MENTIONED THIS TO YOU, BUT...
A THIRD OF THE WORK YOU MANAGE WILL BE GIVEN TO JUSEYA, SO PLEASE SHOW HIM THE ROPES AROUND HERE

UHM... UHN... PLEASE TEACH ME WELL!
The man left
ME TOO. PLEASE TEACH ME WELL.
THIS IS YOUR SEAT. YOU WILL BE SITTING NEXT TO ME TEMPORARILY.
I'LL QUICKLY EXPLAIN EVERYTHING, THEN I'LL SHOW YOU AROUND.
YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO SEE EVERYONE TODAY.
BUT IT'S STILL BEST TO GET AS MUCH DONE AS POSSIBLE.

I WAS THINK-ING...
I'LL TELL YOU WHO'S IN CHARGE OF THE PRINTERS, THEN YOU'LL GO MAKE SOME COPIES.
UHM...
KUBUTA-SENPAI
.....
THAT WAS A YEAR AGO...

IT WAS DURING THAT TIME WHEN A PRETTY CUTE ROOKIE SAID HE LIKED ME
I GOT VERY DEPRESSED BECAUSE OF THAT
BEFORE I HAD MET SATO THE SENPAI I'D ALWAYS LIKED ANNOUNCED HIS INTENTION TO GET MARRIED
I WENT OUT WITH HIM FOR A WHILE
I'M GOING TO NEW YORK
HIROKI, I...
FOR AT LEAST A YEAR, BUT IT MIGHT BE LONGER.
...REALLY? BUT...
I CAN'T WAIT FOR YOU THAT LONG.

JUST LIKE THAT, WE BROKE UP
HE NEVER BOTHERED TO CONTACT ME AFTERWARDS.
AND IT WAS BECAUSE OF HIS OWN REASONS THAT HE WENT TO NEW YORK
SO I THOUGHT THE MATTER WAS CLOSED
POUR
You're thinking too ideally, Hiroki.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING??
WAHH!! HIRO-CHAN! THE WATER IS OVER-FLOWING!
whew whew
Sato successfully got into college.
I REALLY CAN'T TELL WHETHER YOU'RE THINKING ABOUT SOMETHING OR DAYDREAMING! REALLY!
Hiro-chan? calling me this again?
OH... OH...!

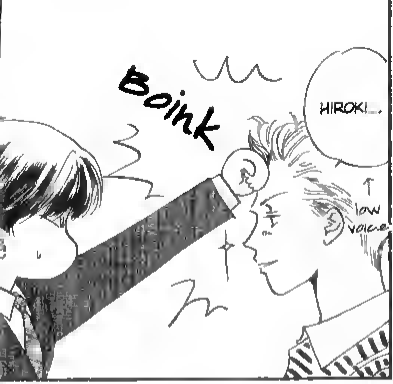
There you go
WHAT'S WRONG?
DID SOMETHING HAPPEN AT THE COMPANY?
NOT REALLY...
GRAB
NOW, BE GOOD AND BURP, HIRO-CHAN
C'mon Baby (It's worse than cooking a child)
OY.

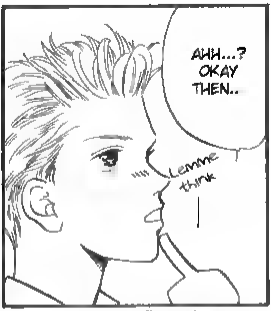
JOHN
THIS ISN'T GOOD...
THIS REALLY ISN'T GOOD

KUBATA-SENPAI...
WOULD YOU LIKE TO GO FOR A DRINK WITH ME AFTER WORK?
I STILL HAVE SOME TIME BEFORE I HAVE TO LEAVE, SO I WAS THINKING OF WORKING OVERTIME
THEN... CAN I WALK WITH YOU FOR A WHILE?
OH .. IS THAT SO?
SORRY, I'VE ALREADY MADE PLANS
ignoring

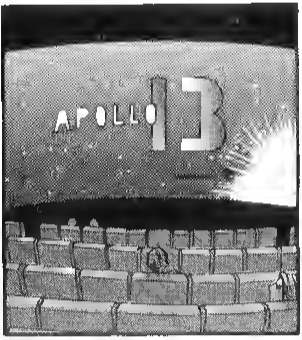
.....
sigh
.....
I'LL BE TAKING MY LEAVE THEN.
SWISH

Can I watch?
Aaah!!
YOU'RE SO SLOW!!
THE MOVIE'S ALREADY STARTED!
SORRY, I STAYED BEHIND TO FINISH SOME THINGS SO I WOULDN'T HAVE TO WORK OVERTIME.
AAH!!??
WHAT THE HECK? HIRO-CHAN WAS THE ONE WHO SAID HE WANTED TO COME SEE THIS MOVIE!
This is the last showing of the last day too!
I BEG YOU. SAY "HIRO" IF YOU WANT TO, BUT DON'T ADD THE -CHAN.


Boink
HIROKI...
low voice


AHH...? OKAY THEN..
Lemme think

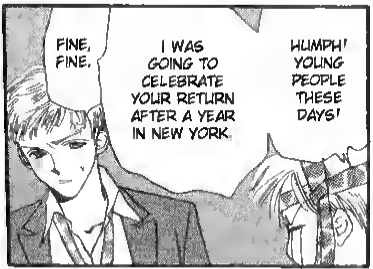
That's a hand.


APOLLO 13

Then what do you want me to call you?!
pissed he said his name

hold tightly

WHEN .
SO THAT WHENEVER I SEE SENPAI AT THE COMPANY
I FEEL LESS AND LESS FOR HIM.
DID THIS BOY STORM INTO MY LIFE
. AND WRAP HIMSELF AROUND ME LIKE THIS?
BECAUSE I HAVE YOU.
SATO



They were best friends in college. He just got dumped by his girlfriend.

Tie

I HAD ALWAYS WANTED TO GO TO NEW YORK
AND
AT THE TIME.
I COULDN'T SAY ANYTHING
I CAN'T WAIT AN ENTIRE YEAR FOR YOU.
IF THAT'S THE CASE, THEN WE'LL JUST BREAK UP NOW.
HE WAS SUCH A COLD PERSON
IT WASN'T UNTIL WE STARTED DATING THAT I REALIZED...
AT LEAST I THOUGHT HAD...
UNTIL I SAW HIM AGAIN
SO... I THOUGHT I COULD FORGET HIM.
I don't feel so good!
Get a hold of yourself!

HIS SMALL AND SLENDER HANDS AND FEET
THAT SOFT HAIR THAT MAKES ME WANT TO ALWAYS CARESS IT
HIS WHITE SKIN
AND THOSE FOREVER COLD EYES .
HIROKI

EH?
It was this big!
What was it?
AH? Really? Really?
HIROKI!

UHM...
I'M VERY SORRY, KUBUTA-SENPAI.

THE FORMS HAVEN'T BEEN ORGA-NIZED?
GEEZ! WHAT AM I GOING TO DO WITH YOU? WITHOUT THE FORMS,
THE MEETING CAN'T GO AS PLANNED TOMOR-ROW
I'M VERY SORRY.
WHY DIDN'T YOU SAY SO EARLIER? WITHOUT THE FORMS, TOMORROW'S MEETING WILL...
I'M SORRY, I THOUGHT I COULD FINISH THEM MYSELF.
DOO DOO DOO DOO
AH, SATO?
COMING
SATO, ARE YOU THERE? PICK UP THE PHONE!
THIS IS KUBUTA I'M NOT HOME RIGHT NOW...

They are like newlyweds.

CLICK CLACK
CLICK CLACK
CLICK CLACK
CLICK CLACK
CLICK CLACK
CLICK CLACK
WHAT'S WRONG?
YOU STOPPED TYPING.

...WHO WAS THAT MAN WITH YOU LAST NIGHT?
WHAT?
I'VE FINISHED IT A LONG TIME AGO.
WHAT DOES THAT QUESTION HAVE TO DO WITH WORK RIGHT NOW?
I'VE ALREADY FINISHED THE WORK.
I'M SORRY. I LIED.

IF I DIDN'T DO THIS, WOULD YOU HAVE TALKED TO ME?
PLEASE WAIT A MOMENT!
Get Up
TALKED TO YOU?

I TOLD YOU THEN, I COULD NOT WAIT FOR YOU.
AND YOU NEVER HAD ANY OBJECTIONS BEFORE NOW.
WE'RE FINISHED.
KUBUTA-SAN... HIROKI...
I STILL LIKE...
THEN, IF I HADN'T LEFT FOR NEW YORK, BUT STAYED BY YOUR SIDE...
WOULD YOU...
WOULD YOU HAVE SMILED AT ME LIKE YOU SMILED AT HIM?

I THOUGHT YOU WEREN'T A PERSON WHO COULD SMILE SO HAPPILY.
WHY WON'T YOU SMILE AT ME LIKE THAT?
COULD IT BE...
THAT THAT GUY IS SPECIAL OR SOMETHING?

..MAYBE
YOU'RE AN..
UNFEELING PERSON
I KNOW.
THAT'S RIGHT, I'VE ALWAYS BELIEVED THE SAME THING
BUT HE STILL ACCEPTED ME

WHENEVER I WANTED HIS EMBRACE,
HIS HANDS WOULD REACH FOR ME,
AND ACCEPT ME

I DON'T KNOW ABOUT ANY "WHAT-IFS".
ALL I KNOW IS THAT DURING MY LONELIEST HOUR, HE WAS ALWAYS BY MY SIDE...
...AND ONLY WHEN I'M WITH HIM, I CAN BE MYSELF.
SO I UNCONSCIOUSLY SMILED AT HIM,
AND LET MY PREVIOUSLY COLD HEART BECOME WARM AND ACCEPTING...

ALWAYS FRANTICALLY SEARCHING FOR SOMEONE TO FILL THE VOID IN MY HEART
WHAT..
DURING THAT TIME, ALL I WANTED WAS SOMEONE TO BE WITH ME..
...I COULDN'T STAND THE LONELINESS.
BUT YOU WERE GOING TO NEW YORK.
I DON'T THINK I COULD'VE PUT UP WITH THROWN AWAY AND NEGLECTED FOR A YEAR.
AFTER YOU LEFT AND BEFORE I MET HIM, I DON'T KNOW HOW MANY GUYS I SLEPT WITH.
...BUT NOW THE ONLY ONE BY MY SIDE IS HIM

umph!
JUSEYA ...
kiss
KISS kiss
ST-
STOP IT!
grab!
JUSEYA!
I DON'T WANT TO!
I LIKE YOU...

STRUGGLE
DON'T BE STUPID, HIROKI!
I NEVER THOUGHT IT'D BE THIS HARD TO HOLD DOWN SOMEONE AS SKINNY AS YOU.
THUD!
uh...
I'LL TREAT YOU LIKE I DID A YEAR AGO.

I STILL REMEMBER CLEARLY..
YOUR MOST SENSITIVE SPOTS...
SEE?
DIDN'T I TELL YOU?
AHH AHH
SATO!
Ohhh!

WHAT'S GOING ON?!
BASH
BANG!
looks away
UH ..
WHAT HAPPENED HERE? A FIGHT?
fix belt
Like hell, it was rape I tell you. RAPE!
HIROKI!

OOH!
HIROKI?

WHAT'S WRONG? YOU'RE DEPRESSED AGAIN.
...
DID SOMETHING HAPPEN AT THE COMPANY?
...OH.
YOU'RE HOME EARLY. I THOUGHT YOU'D BE EVEN LATER THAN THIS
...HIROKI?
HUG

Huh?
SATO?
...?

I DON'T REMEMBER LEAVING A KISS MARK HERE
SATO?
WHAT IS THIS? I WANT AN EXPLANATION.
.....

CAN'T YOU EXPLAIN?
ALRIGHT, I UNDERSTAND
SATO?!

EVEN THOUGH THAT WAS IN THE PAST...
I AM STILL SCARED OF HIM FINDING OUT
THAT JUSEYA AND I WERE ONCE A COUPLE.
...SATO!
I AM SUCH AN IDIOT! WHY DIDN'T I EXPLAIN WHEN HE ASKED?
SLAM
SATO!!
CALL 04 ▶▶ END

For those tired of sweet
Love your nakama bitches

feelin
Hallmark
Cards of Love

A Nakama Project
http://nakama.gb.net
#nakama@irc.irchighway.net

Scanned: Jen
Translated: Bombay & Akari
Text Edited: JakOtsu
Edited: Warrior X
Read: Lmolyer & Chibithime

HIROKI & SATORU Series

CALL 05 ▼ Secrecy

【SECRECY II】

A Nakama Project

.....
....AH
SU....
.....

GOOD...
GOOD MORNING...
THAT..
YESTER-DAY...
Turn

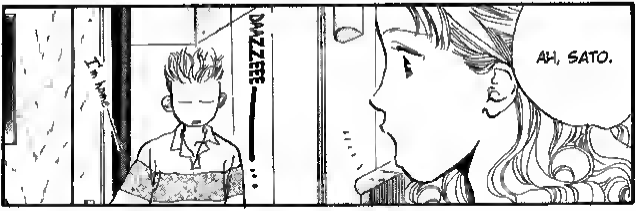
.....!
HIROKI,
I...
TAKE THIS!
BEFORE THE 10 O'CLOCK MEETING, CALCULATE THE TOTAL AMOUNTS AND GET ME THE RESULTS!
PAF
HIROKI....
GRAB

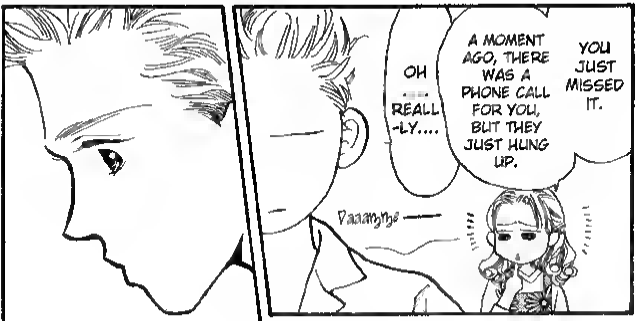
DO NOT TOUCH ME.
YOU'RE ANNOYING!
.....
HIROKI...
ABOUT YESTERDAY AND A YEAR AGO,
I APOLOGIZE.
I LIKE YOU.
I'M WILLING TO DO WHATEVER YOU WANT ME TO.
PLEASE TELL ME, WHAT SHOULD I DO?

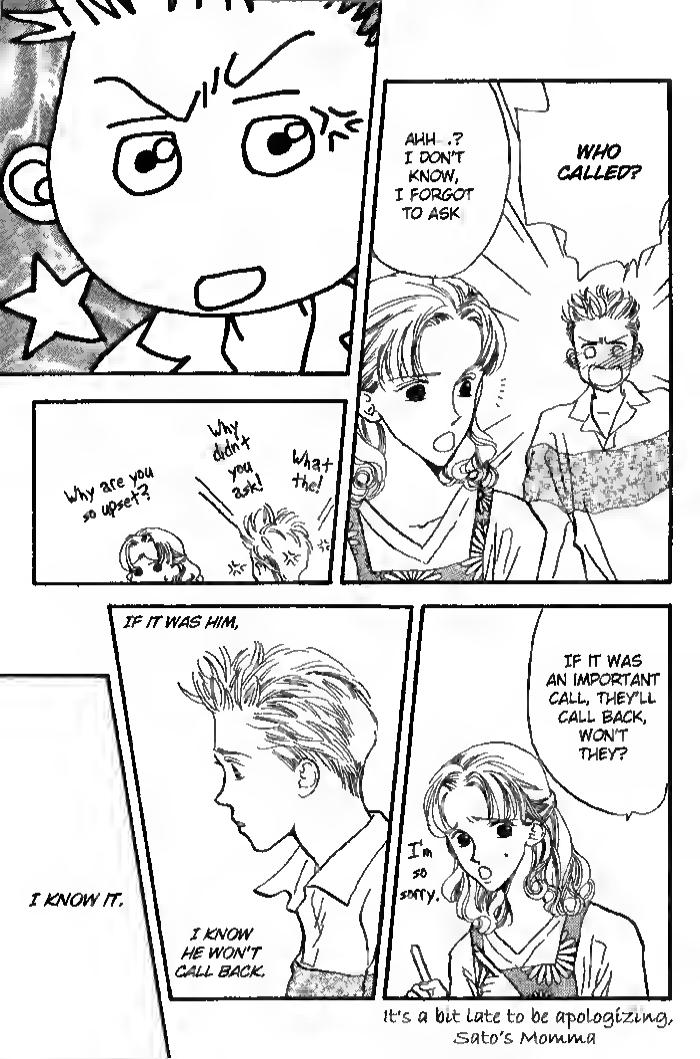
ARE YOU GOING TO USE FORCE AGAIN?
IF I REFUSE,
LET GO.

HELLO, HASEGAWA BED AND BREAKFAST
Sato's mama!
RRRIIING

AH, I'M SO SORRY, SATO HASN'T COME HOME YET.
IS THAT SO, SORRY TO BOTHER...
CLICK


AH, SATO.
I'm home.
MAZZZE


YOU JUST MISSED IT.
A MOMENT AGO, THERE WAS A PHONE CALL FOR YOU, BUT THEY JUST HUNG UP.
OH ... REALL -LY....
Paaaghe


WHO CALLED?
AHH..? I DON'T KNOW, I FORGOT TO ASK
Why are you so upset?
Why didn't you ask!
What the!
IF IT WAS HIM,
I KNOW IT.
I KNOW HE WON'T CALL BACK.
IF IT WAS AN IMPORTANT CALL, THEY'LL CALL BACK, WON'T THEY?
I'm so sorry.

It's a bit late to be apologizing, Sato's Momma

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STA—RE...
.....
HE REALLY DIDN'T CALL.
WHAT THE HELL.
WHAT AM I GOING TO DO...
WHY AM I EVEN GETTING ANGRY...

RRIING
Rustle
click click
Thank You
Rustle
Rustle
HELLO, THIS IS KUBUTA'S PHONE.
THIS IS THE FRONT DESK, SOMEONE IS LOOKING FOR KUBUTA-SAN.
KUBUTA-SAN ISN'T HERE, MAY I ASK WHO'S LOOKING FOR HIM?
PICK
RRIING
A HASEGAWA-SAN,
HE SEEMS TO BE A COLLEGE STUDENT...
ARE YOU HASE-GAWA-SAN?

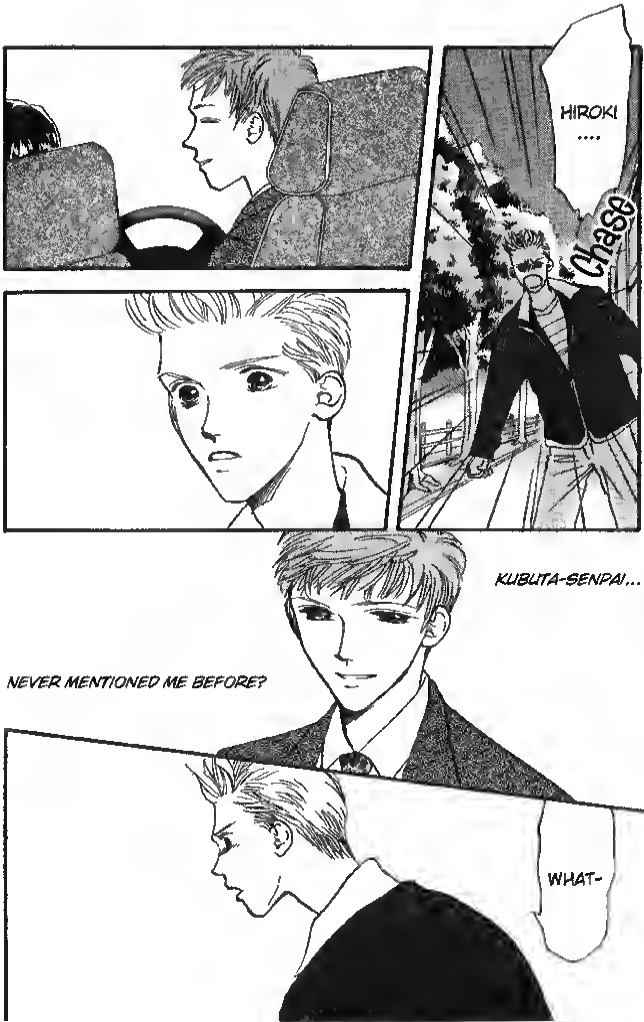
KUBUTA-SAN IS CURRENTLY OUT ON BUSINESS.
IF YOU LIKE, I CAN GIVE HIM A MESSAGE.
HELLO.
...EH..?
...I'M SORRY, BUT YOU ARE...?
...AH AH. THAT'S RIGHT.
I'VE OFTEN HEARD KUBUTA-SENPAI SPEAK OF YOU, SO I FEEL AS IF WE KNOW EACH OTHER.
I AM KUBUTA-SAN'S SUBORDINATE, MY NAME IS JUSEYA. IT'S NICE TO MEET YOU.
...MR... JUSEYA.. ?

YES. KUBUTA-SENPAI NEVER SPOKE OF ME BEFORE?
NEVER
IS THAT SO.
smirk
THAT'S OKAY. SHOULD I TAKE A MESSAGE?
REALLY. BUT I'M NOT SURE WHEN HE'S RETURNING TO THE OFFICE.
AND EVEN WHEN HE DOES RETURN, HE'S VERY BUSY. HE'S ALMOST LIKE A COLLEGE STUDENT RIGHT NOW, HE'S NOT EVEN SURE WHEN HE CAN LEAVE FOR HOME.
ANGRY
IT DOESN'T MATTER! I WANT TO WAIT.
.....
THIS GUY....
IS ANNOYING!
NO NEED, I WISH TO SAY THIS TO HIM PERSONALLY. I'LL WAIT.

ALRIGHT,
FU FU
THEN YOU CAN WAIT HERE.
...AH, KUBUTA-SENPAI.
GREAT, I FINALLY FOUND YOU.

I'LL DRIVE THERE. PLEASE WAIT FOR ME AT THE GARAGE, NOT AT THE LOBBY.
THE SHIDO COMPANY BUSINESS MEETING HAS BEEN MOVED TO A DIFFERENT LOCATION. COULD YOU COME BACK TO THE OFFICE?
WHERE ARE YOU RIGHT NOW?
AH...
THE OFFICE CLOSES AT SIX. COULD YOU PLEASE LEAVE NOW?
SIR, I APOLOGIZE

VROOM...
LOOKS LIKE I'LL HAVE TO GO HOME AND CALL...
AH! NO HELP FOR IT.
I UNDERSTAND. MY APOLOGIZES.


HIROKI ....
Chase
KUBUTA-SENPAI...
NEVER MENTIONED ME BEFORE?
WHAT-

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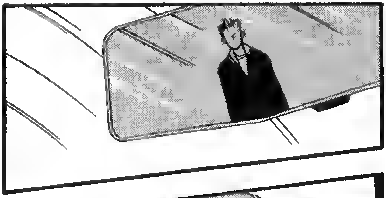

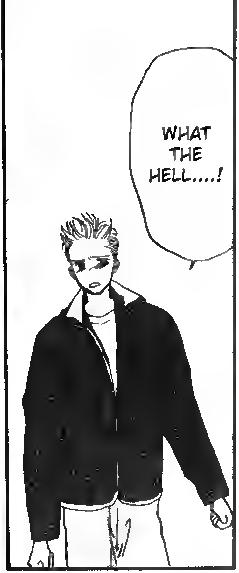

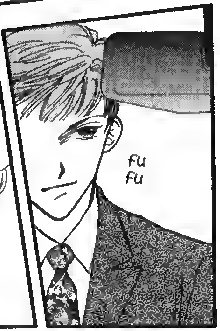

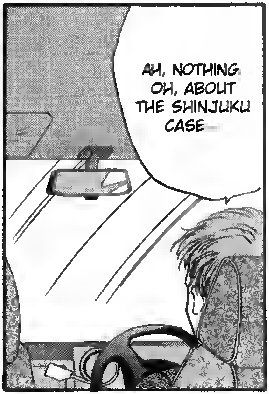

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NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT, YOU'VE NEVER SAID,
COULD I STILL BE THE ONLY ONE WHO'S SERIOUS?
"I NEED YOU" OR
"I LIKE YOU" TO ME AT ALL.

BAASSIIT AARDD

I DON'T WANT ANYTHING ELSE,
I JUST WANT COURAGE.
IT'S BEEN A WEEK....

KUBUTA-SENPAI.
IT'S ALMOST TIME TO LEAVE.
OTHERWISE WE WON'T MAKE IT.
COULDN'T YOU MANAGE IT YOURSELF?
NO, I COULDN'T. THE SHINJUKU CASE IS A BIG ACCOUNT.
AND THEIR CEOS SAY THAT FOR THE IMPORTANT DECISIONS, THEY MUST HAVE YOU THERE, OTHERWISE THEY WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO MAKE UP THEIR MINDS.
.....

....THIS IS WHAT THE CLIENTS WANT,
THEY MUST HAVE YOU.

ARE YOU OKAY? KUBUTA-SENPAI

HOW DARE YOU ASK ME WHAT'S WRONG ...?
YOU DELIBERATELY MADE ME DRUNK, DIDN'T YOU...?
WHEN THEY WANTED TO DRINK, YOU KEPT POURING WINE IN MY CUP....
I'M SORRY, YOU HAD A GOOD ALCOHOL TOLERANCE BEFORE, SO I THOUGHT..
IF YOU DIDN'T FEEL WELL, WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME EARLIER?
COME ON, HOLD ON TO ME.
HAVE YOU... SEEN THAT GUY RECENTLY?
.....
...THAT...
HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH YOU...

I KNOW
YOU'RE HOME

YOU CAN LEAVE NOW!
I'M SORRY, IT WON'T HAPPEN AGAIN
SHUT UP!
IT WON'T HAPPEN AGAIN.
I CAN'T JUST LEAVE YOU HERE BY YOURSELF.
WHAT THE HELL?
SATO!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, LEAVING ME HERE BY MYSELF!

....STOP LYING....

HIROKI...
THUD
...SATO?

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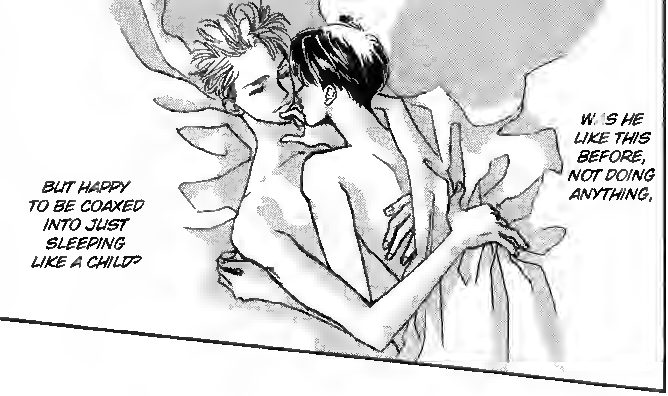
GRAB
....YES.
.....
NO.
.....
THIS IS FINE...
HE'S A PERSON
WHO WOULD CARELESSLY FLIRT WITH THAT GUY...?



A YEAR AGO, I THOUGHT HE WAS A COLD PERSON.

BUT,

.....
Up
Ha!

PLLL
PLLL
PLLL
CLICK
...HELLO.
IS THIS HASEGAWA-SAN?

... WHO.... ARE YOU?
IF YOU LIKE HIROKI, THEN COME GET HIM BACK.
I'M AT HIROKI'S PLACE RIGHT NOW.
CLICK
.....

DIIIIINGGG
DOOOONNGGG
OH,
I DIDN'T THINK YOU'D REALLY COME

IT'S YOU..?
SORRY FOR BOTHERING YOU,
BUT THE SITUATION IS AS YOU CAN SEE.
...WHAT THE HELL...?
SATO?

...I
DREAMT THAT I SLEPT IN SATO'S ARMS...
I WAS DRUNK YESTERDAY... JUSEYA BROUGHT ME HOME...
AND THEN...?
..... JUSE-YA...?
WHAT'S GOING ON?
.....

OKAY, GOODBYE.

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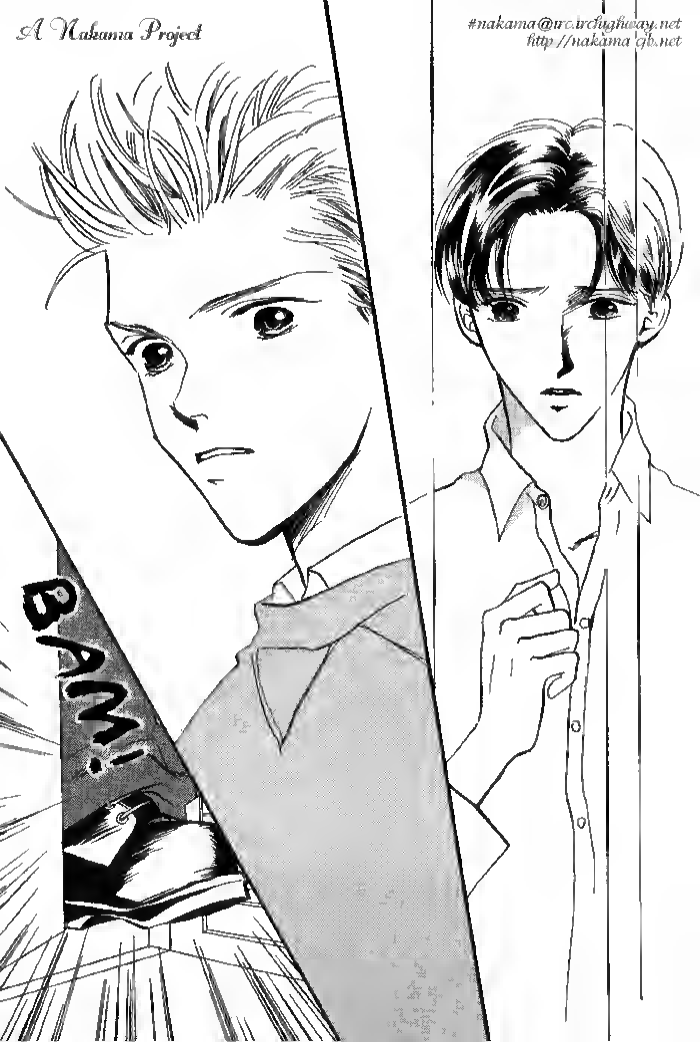
#nakama@mcarchipelago.net
http://nakama.ath.net



PUSH
Beauty
Sale
HIROKI!
start

Beauty
IN THE
BOX 1st
on sale
COME...
MOVE...

HIROKI...
.....
GRAB

END
.....
sigh...

HIROKI,
SLAM
I'M SORRY.

WHAT FACET OF YOU WAS I SEEING JUST NOW?
WHAT A HEAD-ACHE....
THE FACE I LIKED,
THE HANDS AND FEET I LIKED,
THE VOICE,
AND THE HAIR.
JUST BECAUSE I DIDN'T GET WHAT I WANTED,
I CAUSED SUCH A BIG FUSS...

GRAB
....SATO,
Beauty IN THE BOX
ACTUALLY ...
I KEPT WANTING...

TO SEE YOU....

WHAT I WANT TO HEAR RIGHT NOW IS SOMETHING ELSE.
...WHAT ..?
STOP
SATO,
HE'S ..
THE EXPLANATION CAN WAIT TILL LATER.
..SATO.

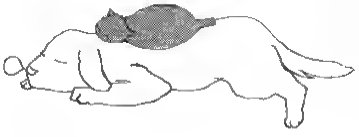
I
LIKE
YOU.

#NAKAMA RC RCH GHWA NE
NE R NAKAMA CLB NE

NAKAMA

circle of friends

sweet as candy.



HIROKI & SATORU Series

SECRECY II

A LONELY GAME

A Nakama Project
http://www.nakama.cjb.net
#nakama@irc.ircnightway.net

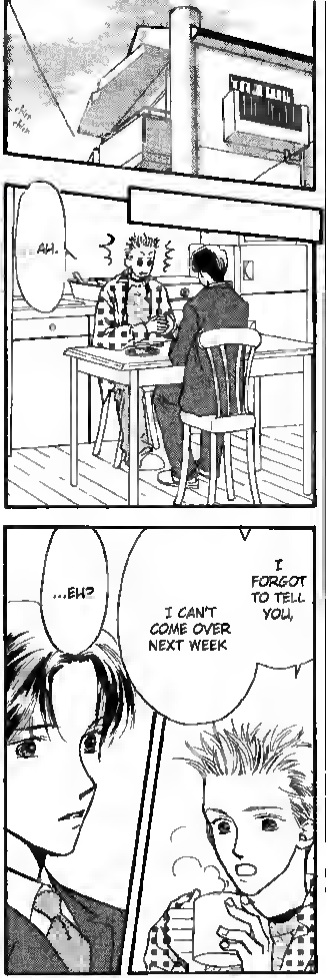
Scanned by: Jen
Translated by: Bombay
Text edited by: Jak0tsu
Edited by: Centuru
Qced by: Wanderguard

Do you like me?

Oi!
Pull
I JUST SAID IT.
NO!
GRAB
WHEN SAID DURING SEX, IT DOESN'T COMMAND ENOUGH TRUST TO MAKE IT COUNT.
LOOK INTO MY EYES AND TELL ME
TELL ME
EVER SINCE THAT INCIDENT WITH JUSEYA, SATO WOULD RANDOMLY ASK ME TO TELL HIM I LIKED HIM.
I DON'T SHARE MUCH ABOUT MY PAST, SO I FULLY UNDERSTAND WHY HE KEEPS ASKING ME.
IT'S TRUE I WAS WRONG THAT TIME.

SATO?
BUT...
OH!
I DON'T CARE
WOULD YOU STOP THAT!? YOU CAN SLEEP 'TILL NOON,
I WANT TO HAVE SEX WITH YOU UNTIL YOU DON'T HAVE THE ENERGY TO ATTRACT OTHER MEN.
BUT I HAVE TO WORK!

THAT HURT !!
HIS LIFE STICK
...
...CHE...
BUT...
ZAAAAAAAA
...
IT'S MY FAULT THAT SATO DOESN'T HAVE SELF-CONFIDENCE.


AH.
...EH?
I CAN'T COME OVER NEXT WEEK
I FORGOT TO TELL YOU,
WHAT...
SHOULD I DO...?

WHAT'S WRONG?
THAT'S TRUE, HOWEVER, THERE WAS A DECISION TO NOW HAVE A BIG INTER-SCHOOL COMPETITION
IT JUST HAPPENED TO BE ON SUNDAY.
ISN'T THE CLUB TRAINING THING THIS WEEK ONLY UNTIL SATURDAY?
HUH?
IS THAT SO?
DIDN'T YOU ALSO TELL ME THAT AFTER THE TRAINING THERE WAS GOING TO BE A SECRET GROUP GATHERING?
FOR AN ENTIRE WEEK
THAT'S TWO WHOLE WEEKS WITHOUT SEEING EACH OTHER
How did that happen?
Slow reaction
...
AH!

THERE'S NO NEED FOR YOU TO PUSH YOURSELF.
I'LL COME OVER AFTER THE COMPETITION FINISHES, IT'LL PROBABLY BE REALLY LATE THOUGH.
AH! THEN NOW ABOUT THIS?
I'M LEAVING.
Here's a kiss~
DON'T START AGAIN
WHY ARE YOU SO UPSET?
I KNOW YOU'LL BE LONELY...
angry
WAAH!
SLAM

AAH...
I CAN'T STAND THIS!
THIS TENSE ATMOSPHERE IS AWFUL, CONSIDERING WE AREN'T GOING TO BE SEEING EACH OTHER FOR TWO WHOLE WEEKS
...
I REALLY HATE HOW I'M SO STUPID

...WHY?
WHY CAN'T I JUST HONESTLY TELL HIM... THAT I'LL MISS HIM TERRIBLY IF I CAN'T SEE HIM FOR TWO WEEKS?
..
IT'S TOO EMBARRASSING TO SAY! HOW COULD I..?

TAKADA ?
OOOOH! IF IT ISN'T KUBOTA! LONG TIME NO SEE!
EH ..? HAS IT BEEN THAT LONG SINCE WE LAST SAW EACH OTHER. ?
...
WE HAVEN'T SEEN EACH OTHER SINCE THE MONTH BEFORE LAST.
. OH
The month before LAST
BEFORE WHENEVER YOU SAW ME YOU WOULD SAY, "SEMPAI! SEMPAI!" AND THEN RUN TOWARDS ME REALLY
Waaah
WHAT'S GOTTEN INTO YOU?

..AH?
NO NO SUCH THING
STAGGER
BOW
YOU COULDN'T HAVE GOTTEN A GIRLFRIEND, COULD YOU?
The old guy that got a fright
WHAT !
SURPRISED
EH!!!!
EVEN THOUGH IT ISN'T REALLY TRUE...
Boyfriend (?)
... YEAH .. IT COUNTS...
Ha ha ha
Back away...
KUBOTA YOU HAVE A GIRLFRIEND ...?
LIAR !!!
NO!!!

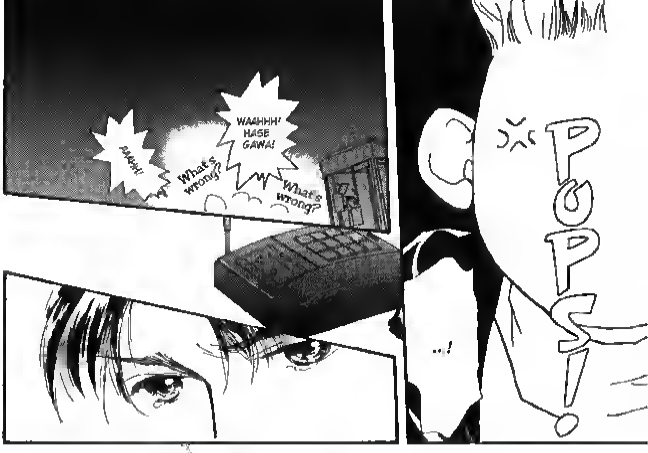
WHERE DO ALL THESE FEMALE COWORKERS COME FROM?
GOD! YOU'RE LYING! I DON'T WANT——
THE WORLD'S COMING TO AN END!
AAAHH—AAAHH—— OUR COMPANY JUST LOST ANOTHER CUTE GUY—.
YEAH!
one after the other
Hurry up and go back to work!
AH .. THAT SCARED ME
So sad.
Yeah
I WAS SHOCKED TOO
YOU'RE PRETTY POPULAR.
EH?
YOU DIDN'T SEE THOSE REACTIONS ?
BEING SO POPULAR, YOU SHOULD HANG OUT WITH OTHERS MORE.
REMEMBER WHEN YOU FIRST CAME? THOSE GIRLS WERE SO SCARED OF YOU THEY WOULDN'T HAVE DARED TO COME NEAR YOU.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
THOUGH, COME TO THINK OF IT, YOU'RE MORE OPEN NOW THAN YOU USED TO BE.

I'D HAVE NEVER THOUGHT THIS WOULD HAPPEN.
WAS I THAT..?
MAYBE IT'S BECAUSE OF THAT LOVER OF YOURS
I SHOULD THANK HER.

..I KNOW... WHY
I REALLY WANT TO SEE HIM NOW
SATO..
ririiing
HELLO
. AH,
HIROKI?

I'M SORRY, HIROKI, I KNOW I SAID I WOULD COME OVER TONIGHT, BUT IT LOOKS LIKE I WON'T BE ABLE TO.
..SATO..
WE GOT OFF WORK, BUT SOME OF MY FRIENDS GOT DRUNK AND I HAVE TO TAKE THEM HOME...
Ha ha ha ha ha!
Fav-Mirtwo
works in a bar
YOU'RE ANNOYING!
THIS BASTARD! HE'S CALLING HIS GIRL-FRIEND!
HASE-GAWA'S GIRL-FRIEND?
..?
aah! aah!
WE HAVEN'T SEEN EACH OTHER FOR TWO WEEKS, BUT..

Ha ha ha ha
Ha ha
AH, OI! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
HELLOOO
Hasegawa's girlfriend?
Can I hear your voice?
SLAM!
beep
beep
beep
beep
beep
beep
beep
beep
beep
HELLO, HIROKI?
I'M SOR


AAHH!
WAAHHH! HASE GAWA!
What's wrong?
What's wrong?
POP!
...!

IT LOOKS LIKE IT WILL BE ANOTHER WEEK NOW .

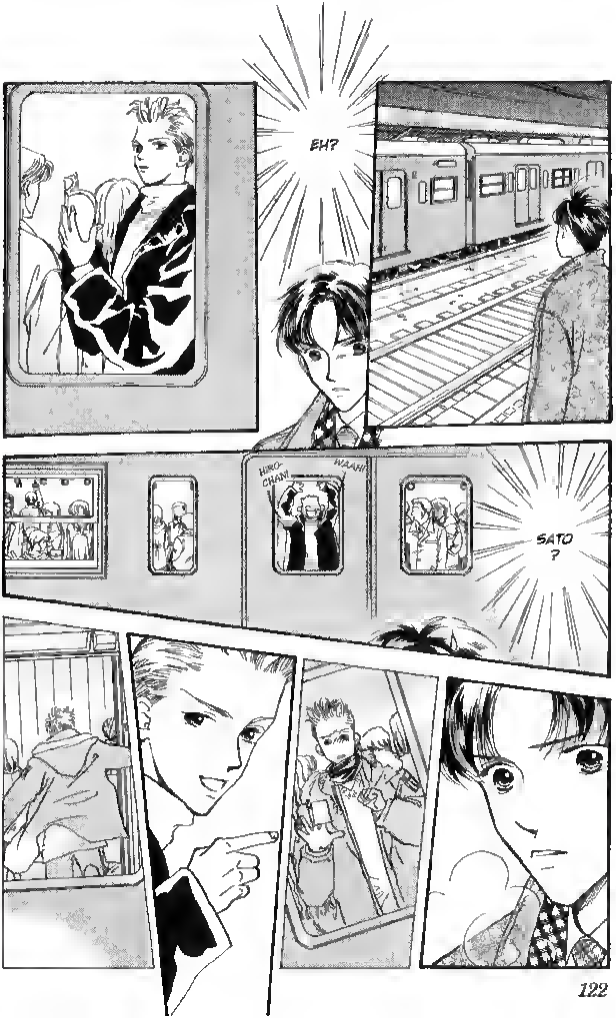
IF THIS GOES ON, MY BODY WILL COLLAPSE
I NEED TO FIND SOMETHING TO DO TO TAKE MY MIND OFF SATO.
AND I COULDN'T SLEEP LAST NIGHT...
fuh
THAT STILL PAINFUL WOUND, ACTUALLY
Aaaahh.
THE CLUB SCHOOL
MAYBE I SHOULD GO PLAY SOME TENNIS, I HAVEN'T PLAYED SINCE I GRADUATED COLLEGE..
WAAAH! SHORTS

CAN ONLY BE SOOTHED BY YOU.
IT WAS AT THIS TRAIN STATION
THAT WE FIRST MET
YOU WERE SITTING... ON THAT BENCH, LOOKING AT ME.
YOU WERE STILL A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT, WEARING YOUR UNIFORM UNDERNEATH YOUR JACKET,
HOW DID I WORD MY INVITATION TO YOU THAT FIRST TIME..?
THINKING BACK, I WAS REALLY RATHER BOLD THEN
I... I WOULD ..LIKE .. FOR YOU AND ME
THAT ..!
his first time.

I WANT TO MEET YOU AGAIN
PLEASE TELL ME YOUR NAME

YOU'RE SO MEAN, AND COLD TOO.
YOU PRETENDED I WAS HIM?
THAT'S RIGHT, I WAS MEAN, AND SELF-PITYING.
SCARED TO SAY ANYTHING.
ALWAYS WAITING.
HOWEVER,
TOWARDS THAT GUY, TOO BUT BECAUSE OF YOU, I CALMED DOWN.

IF I COULD,
HOOOONK
COMPARED TO NOT SEEING TAKADA FOR TWO MONTHS,
IT'S TORTURE NOT BEING ABLE TO SEE YOU FOR TWO WEEKS!
ONLY SAY IT.


EH?
HIRO-CHAN!
WAAH!
SATO ?

HIROKI~!
WHAT A COINCIDENCE! I'M COMING RIGHT OVER!
rattle
rattle
I'M COMING RIGHT OVER!
STAND RIGHT THERE AND DON'T MOVE!
STAND RIGHT THERE AND DON'T MOVE!

...SATO, DO YOU STILL REMEMBER?

HIROKI!

HIROKI ...?
GULP
HIRO
...SATO ..
STEALTHILY
COME COME COME COME COME HERE...
AH...I'M SORRY, ARE YOU MAD BECAUSE OF THE PHONE CONVERSATION YESTERDAY?
I THOUGHT YOU WOULD BE
WHAT, WHAT'S WRONG?

...
I WAS JUST SHOCKED.
BECAUSE JUST WHEN I REALLY WANTED TO SEE YOU,
YOU APPEARED IN FRONT OF ME,
AND CAME TO MY SIDE...

. REALLY? I GOT IT.
YOU MUST HAVE BEEN REALLY LONELY
THESE PAST TWO WEEKS, RIGHT?
Here I here
GRAB
It can't be? Maybe you didn't see... A minute ago? Any!
Eh? How's that possible?
Look! Aren't those two guys?
Hah!?
...!
LET.. LET'S GO TO A PLACE WHERE WE WON'T ATTRACT SO MUCH ATTENTION!
GRAB

HIROKI ?
SKIP
...WHY DID YOU TAKE THE WORDS RIGHT OUT OF MY MOUTH?
THESE TWO WEEKS THAT I COULDN'T SEE YOU,
I WAS SO LONELY...
I'M NOT LIKE YOU, I CAN'T SAY WHAT I WANT VERY OPENLY
...SO...
I'M REALLY SORRY..

I'LL WORK HARD... BUT I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO..
I'M SORRY
COULD YOU PLEASE NOT KEEP ASKING .
...
Uhm...
IT'S MY FAULT
I REALLY WANT TO HUG YOU AND NOT HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT OTHER PEOPLE SEEING.
ME TOO,
I HAVE MANY THINGS I WANT TO SAY. .
SO COULD WE GO SOMEPLACE PRIVATE?
I KNOW... I KNOW, I'M SORRY,
HIROKI

AND I CAN ONLY WALK SLOWLY BEHIND HIM.
SATO SEEMS VERY HAPPY, HOLDING MY BRIEFCASE AND WALKING FORWARD WITH BIG STEPS,
IN THE END, I STILL DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO